

Application of: Dykes, Chris et al.
Application No.: 10/578,453
Page 2

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please consider amendments to claims 1, 8, 10 and 14 as follows:

1.(**Proposed Amendment**) A fluid sample collection device for collecting 0.05 mL or less of blood, and for insertion and testing of said blood in an ultrasonic analyzer instrument, comprising:

a thin elongate body having a finger-grip at one end, and another functional insertion end, said insertion end including,

a collecting region including an entrance aperture through which fluid enters a capillary tube within said collecting region the device by capillary action and flows into said collecting region,

a testing region in fluid communication with said collecting region for containing at least a portion of said fluid during testing inside said analyzer, said testing region further comprising an open-ended channel perpendicular to said capillary tube and passing through said thin elongate body and adapted to be sealed off between ~~sense~~ walls of ~~said analyzer when inserted therein~~ for containing said portion of said fluid such that said portion is exposed to an external environment of said device, and

a pumping region in fluid communication with said testing region for introducing a pressure-differential and thereby inducting said portion of said fluid from said collecting region into the open-ended channel of said testing region ~~for testing wherein~~ said portion is placed in direct contact at each open end of the channel with a sensing surface of said ultrasonic analyzer instrument.

2 - 5.(Original)

6 - 7.(Canceled)

8.(**Proposed Amendment**) A disposable blood sample collection device for insertion and testing of a blood sample in a portable ultrasonic analyzer instrument, comprising:
an elongate body including,

Application of: Dykes, Chris et al.
Application No.: 10/578,453
Page 3

a collecting region including an entrance aperture through which said blood sample is drawn ~~into the device by capillary action~~ into a capillary tube within said collecting region,

a testing region in fluid communication with said collecting region for containing at least a portion of said blood sample for exposing said blood sample to a sensor during testing inside said analyzer, said testing region further comprising an open-ended channel perpendicular to said capillary tube passing through said elongate body and adapted to be sealed off between sensor walls of said portable analyzer when inserted therein such that said portion of said blood sample within said channel is directly exposed to an external sensing surface of said ultrasonic analyzer instrument, and

an orifice in fluid communication with said testing region for coupling a pump inside said ultrasonic analyzer instrument to induct said portion of said blood sample from said collecting region into the open ended channel of said testing region for testing.

9.(Cancelled)

10.(Proposed Amendment) A disposable blood sample collection device for insertion and testing of a blood sample in a portable ultrasonic analyzer instrument, comprising:
an elongate body including,

a collecting region including an entrance aperture through which a sample of blood is drawn into the device by capillary action into a capillary tube within said collection region,

a testing region in fluid communication with said collecting region for exposing at least a portion of said blood sample to a sensor during testing inside said analyzer, said testing region further comprising an open-ended channel perpendicular to said capillary tube and passing through said thin elongate body and adapted to be sealed off between sensor walls of said analyzer when inserted therein, for containing said portion of the blood sample such that the portion of said blood sample within the channel is exposed to an external environment of said device, and

a bulb in fluid communication with said testing region and manipulated by said analyzer to induct said portion of said blood sample from said collecting region into said

Application of: Dykes, Chris et al.

Application No.: 10/578,453

Page 4

open-ended channel of said testing region for testing wherein said blood is placed in direct contact at each open end of the channel with a sensing surface within said ultrasonic analyzer instrument.

11 - 13.(Original)

14.(Proposed Amendment) A disposable blood sample collection device for insertion into an ultrasonic analyzer device, comprising:

a thin elongate body adapted for insertion into said analyzer;
a capillary tube integrally-molded in said body and extending inwardly from a distal end;
an open-sided testing region in fluid communication with said capillary tube, said testing region comprising an open-ended channel passing through said thin elongate body perpendicular to said capillary tube for containing at least a portion of a blood sample drawn into said capillary tube such that said portion of said blood sample is exposed to an external environment of said device, said open-ended channel, [and] adapted to be sealed off between sensor walls of said ultrasonic analyzer device when inserted therein; and

an actuator region in fluid communication with said testing region for introducing a pressure-differential and thereby inducting blood from said capillary tube into said open-ended channel of said testing region for testing wherein said blood is placed in direct contact with said sensing walls within said ultrasonic analyzer device.

15 -16.(Original)

17 - 21. (Withdrawn)